

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final Office Action dated November 24, 2009, claims 17–31 and 33–37 were pending, claims 29 and 31 were objected to because of an informality, claims 17–28, 30–31, and 33–36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), claim 37 was allowed, and claim 29 was objected to but indicated as containing allowable subject matter. In this response, which is being filed within two months of the Final Office Action, claims 17, 20, 24, 31, and 33 are being amended, claims 19 and 29 are being canceled, and claim 38 is being added.

Claim Objections

Claims 29 and 31 were objected to because of an informality; namely, the use of the language “the first needle portion.” Claim 29 is being canceled, and claim 31 is being amended to recite only “the first needle” and not “the first needle portion.” The Applicants are deleting the word “portion” to correspond to the language used in claim 17 from which claim 31 depends, and are not intending to limit the scope of claim 31. The Applicants respectfully submit that the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections — 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17–28, 30–31, and 33–36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang (U.S. Pat. No. 6,149,124) in view of Rado (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0074985). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 17 is being amended to incorporate the recitations of claims 29 and 19, which were indicated by the Examiner as containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17 is patentable over Yang in view of Rado. Claims 18, 20, 24–28, and 30–31 depend from claim 17 and therefore the Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are patentable at least for the reasons that claim 17 is patentable.

Claim 33 is being amended to recite, inter alia, “...a restriction part located in the high pressure chamber and having a restriction passageway which allows the passage of

fluid from one side of the restriction part to another side of the restriction part, both sides of the restriction passageway being located in the high pressure chamber.” Neither Yang nor Rado, nor any other reference of record teach such a recitation. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 33 is patentable. And claims 34–36, which depend from claim 33, are therefore patentable at least for the reasons that claim 33 is patentable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants note that claim 37 was allowed. And claims 29 and 19, which contained allowable subject matter, are being cancelled and incorporated into claim 17.

Amended Claims 20, 24, and 31

Claims 20, 24, and 31 are being amended to change their dependencies since claim 19 is being canceled.

New Claim 38

Claim 38 is being added and depends from claim 17. The Applicants respectfully submit that claim 38 is patentable at least for the reasons that claim 17 is patentable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if doing so would advance prosecution of this case.

No fees are believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to Charge Deposit Account No. 50-0852 for any required fees, or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
CARY W. BROOKS Reg. No. 33,361
Reising Ethington PC
P.O. Box 4390
Troy, Michigan 48099-4390
Telephone: 248-689-3500
Facsimile: 248-689-4071

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CWB/CMB/bmr